

REMARKS

Claims 1–49 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-10, 13-15, 19, 23, 26, 28-30, and 33 are currently amended prior to examination on the merits to provide proper antecedent basis for claimed elements, to correct minor inconsistencies in the claims, and to clarify reactive cleaning fluid components listed in the claims. No new matter is added by way of these amendments.

Claim 2 is cancelled. Claims 1-49 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

In particular, the Examiner has required a restriction to one of the following groups of claims per 35 U.S.C. §121:

- I. Claims 1-45, drawn to methods, classified in class 134, subclass 2.0.
- II. Claims 46-49, drawn to apparatus, classified in class 134, subclass 138.

The Examiner has further identified four (4) species in the application, i.e., Example 1, Example 2, Example 3, and Example 4; and has advised Applicant that the reply must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined and (ii) identification of claims encompassing the elected invention.

Applicant elects without traverse Group I Claims 1-45, drawn to methods, classified in class 134, subclass 2.0. Applicant further elects the species of Example 4 of the pending application (emphasis added). Group I claims 1-45 are readable thereon.

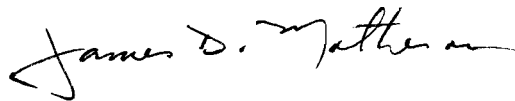
Applicant respectively requests the Examiner to begin examination of the elected claims on the merits. Applicant retains the right to consideration of claims to additional species depending from, or otherwise requiring all the limitations of, an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR §1.141. Applicant further retains the right to prosecute any claims not so considered in a separate divisional as provided by 35 U.S.C. §121.

Applicant respectfully submits that no change in inventorship has occurred as a consequence of the current restriction and election requirements, in compliance with 37 CFR §1.48(b).

CLOSURE

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to respond in a proper manner to the Examiner's requested actions in this case. Should the Examiner identify any further requirements, he is invited to contact the undersigned for resolution thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James D. Matheson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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